

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1-11. (Canceled)
12. (Currently Amended) A vessel for dissolution testing of ~~an annular~~ a pharmaceutical delivery device, comprising:
- an inert vessel wall and an inert vessel bottom such that the vessel is able to hold a fluid medium; and
  - an inert retainer provided by or at the vessel wall or vessel bottom, for holding the ~~annular~~ pharmaceutical delivery device and providing a passageway to the vessel bottom for a sampling tube.
13. (Previously Presented) The vessel according to claim 12, wherein the vessel wall and the vessel bottom together form one transparent glass entity.
14. (Previously Presented) The vessel according to claim 12, wherein the retainer comprises an annular plate, which annular plate comprises the passageway for the sampling tube in the middle of the annular plate, and the annular plate is placed inside the vessel at the vessel wall.
15. (Previously Presented) The vessel according to claim 12, wherein the retainer is permanently fixed to the vessel wall or the vessel bottom.
16. (Previously Presented) The vessel according to claim 12, wherein the retainer is selected from the group consisting of one or more annular ledges protruding inwardly from the vessel wall or vessel bottom, one or more annular

rims protruding inwardly from the vessel wall or vessel bottom, and one or more bulges protruding inwardly from the vessel wall or vessel bottom.

17. (Previously Presented) The vessel according to claim 16, wherein the retainer comprises two sets of bulges formed by indentation of the vessel wall or vessel bottom.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a the vessel ~~according to of~~ claim 15, comprising melting or gluing the retainer to the vessel wall or vessel bottom.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for dissolution testing of a ~~an annular~~ pharmaceutical delivery device containing an amount of a drug, the method comprising:

placing a fluid medium and stirring means in a dissolution vessel  
comprising:  
an inert vessel wall and an inert vessel bottom such that the vessel is able to hold the fluid medium, and  
an inert retainer provided by or at the vessel wall or vessel bottom, for holding the ~~annular~~ pharmaceutical delivery device and  
providing a passageway to the vessel bottom for a sampling tube;  
placing the ~~annular~~ pharmaceutical delivery device in the retainer;  
rotating the stirring means to circulate the fluid medium in the dissolution vessel;  
inserting a sampling tube through the passageway; and  
sampling one or more predetermined volumes of the fluid medium at selected time intervals by means of the sampling tube.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for dissolution testing of a ~~an annular~~ pharmaceutical delivery device, comprising:

one or more of the dissolution vessels ~~according to claim 1~~ of claim 12,  
one or more stirring means; and  
a sampling and/or discharging device with one or more sampling and/or  
discharging tubes suitable for sampling and/or discharging one or more  
predetermined volume fractions of the fluid medium from the dissolution vessels.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a  
refilling device suitable for adding fluid medium to the dissolution vessels.